

02-277

From: Barb Eikost
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:23 PM
Subject: hearings on media

Mr. Chairman,

I implore you to hold further hearings regarding regulation of radio, television, the internet, etc. It is outrageous that the public has been kept "out of the loop" in these discussions. Please, for the sake of our democracy, extend discussion beyond June 2nd and invite open hearings so that citizens will have a chance to voice concerns or opinions.

I would urge you personally to reconsider your position and think of the implications that further deregulation of this industry will portend. Corporate ownership has already contaminated the communications industry. This must not be allowed to continue and expand unchecked.

Thank you.

Barbara Eikost
Perrysburg, Ohio

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From: Belmont
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:29 PM
Subject: Media Monopoly

Mr. Powell,

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Thomas Belmont
Norwalk, CT 06850-1406

From: Dennis Jay
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:32 PM
Subject: Media ownership

Democracy is too fragile a thing to risk making a mistake with allowing for greater media consolidation. I urge you to take your time, foster a public dialogue and make this decision using the greatest amount of knowledge possible.

Media in all forms have become an even more dominant force in shaping our culture and our politics. This decision likely will be a major one that will influence the type of world U.S. citizens live in the remainder of this century.

Decide wisely - err on the side of prudence that more media concentration is less freedom for all.

- Dennis Jay
Annapolis, Maryland

From: Elton Hinshaw
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:34 PM
Subject: Media Consolidation

Dear Sir:

I fear the FCC will be making a tragic mistake if it approves or allows the continued consolidation of media outlets. A viable democracy requires a lively interchange among the media and a great variety voices. Domination of the press, the internet, radio and TV by a few firms will lead to the "dumbing down" of the public discussion to what is commercially profitable. DO NOT ALLOW THE FURTHER CONSOLIDATION OF THE MEDIA.

From: Cathy Raphael
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:36 PM
Subject: FCC

Dear Chairman Powell,

I believe that the FCC must ensure that communication networks are not controlled by fewer and fewer owners. Diversity in ownership provides diversity in points of view and competitive programming. This is in the public interest.

Sincerely,
Catherine Raphael
5700 Bartlett Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

From: Deborah Moldow
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:41 PM
Subject: Media Ownership

Dear Mr. Powell,

I am writing as a citizen concerned with the upcoming FCC decision regarding concentration of media ownership. The changes in regulation contemplated risk consolidating the major sources of public opinion on the most important issues affecting our lives strike me as very dangerous to the open society Americans cherish.

I urge the agency to maintain protections that provide citizens with viewpoints from a diversity of sources and enhance the marketplace of ideas. This diversity may not be natural to the capitalist instinct that governs corporations, yet it is essential to democracy. McDonald's may be the most successful restaurant chain in the United States, but it would be a disaster if it were the only choice in town.

I hope that the FCC will continue to limit a single corporation from dominating local TV markets or merging a community's TV stations, radio stations, and newspaper; or from controlling more than 35% of all TV households in the nation. These safeguards ensure that it is the public that owns the air waves and not the corporations. You represent us.

Thank you for considering my views.

Rev. Deborah Moldow
251 B Heritage Hills
Somers, NY 10589

CC: Michael Copps

From: Terrance Neal
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:44 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Terrance Neal (terryneal@terryneal.com) writes:

I expect you to vote against relaxing the rules of media ownership in the U.S.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 172.164.200.225
Remote IP address: 172.164.200.225

From: Barbara Duvall
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:50 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Barbara Duvall (TXJesse@aol.com) writes:

Concentration of media ownership in a few huge corporations is a great danger to our country. The FCC is supposed to protect the public interest. The limitations on media ownership must stay in place. The June 2 vote is very important. If the Communications Act of 1934 is not left intact, our freedoms will be lost.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 205.188.209.14
Remote IP address: 205.188.209.14

From: JeffBarber@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:52 PM
Subject: FCC meeting scheduled for June 2, 2003

This meeting would be on adopting new media ownership rules. From what I've heard, the public hasn't heard enough about this and hasn't given the FCC enough input on this to form the basis for sound decisions. Why the rush to decision? Please postpone the date of the he June 2 meeting until a better understanding of what should be decided has emerged from hearings and public input.

Sincerely, Jeff Barber

From: Karen Lind
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:53 PM
Subject: Prevent centralization of media

Dear Commissioner Powell:

As the FCC considers new regulations regarding ownership of media in the United States, I urge you to make sure that you promote multiplicity of ownership, so that it is impossible for one or a few giant corporations to control the American media.

Commissioner Powell we are already at a crisis point in this regard. Five giants own 90% of the media, and this has resulted in biased reporting and poor news coverage. Independence of view and analysis has suffered.

The FCC must take steps to encourage independent reporting and analysis and freer access to government news sources. Don't allow the American media to become monotonous and biased!

Sincerely,

Karen Lind
229 Ogden Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07307-1203

From: Robert Krikorian
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:54 PM
Subject: June deadline for proposed FCC changes

Please reschedule implementation and acceptance of historic FCC changes from your June meeting to a future meeting.

Bob K

From: Tony Mansell
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:55 PM
Subject: Why Change Ownership Rules?

It seems to me that the fact the major news outlets have failed to cover the impact, fact of, and meaning of the proposed changes is sufficient indication that the changes are not in the best interest of the public!

A few for-profit companies controlling most of the news is a dangerous thing for democracy ... what possibly could motivate a change that would allow this?

Please don't choose money over freedoms!

Sincerely,
Leanne Mansell
Littel Rock, AR 72207
501-666-8932

From: Carlton Shaw
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:57 PM
Subject: Media Ownership

Dear Mr. Powell:

As an American citizen and as an ordained minister I am very concerned about the influence of the broadcast media on our people.

Now I hear that large media companies or conglomerates that have been buying up broadcast outlets are about to increase their monopoly, and that the FCC may allow them to do so.

This is unacceptable.

Please act in the public interest and make sure that large owners are not allowed to dominate.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carlton Shaw

2029 Viking Ave.

Sumner, IA 50674

cjshaw@iowatelecom.net

From: Suesec@aol.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:58 PM
Subject: Biennial Regulatory Review

As I understand the Biennial Regulatory Review of the FCC is to take place on June 2, 2003. At this time a vote will be taken on whether to change the law to allow a media group to own (or use our, the citizens of the US airways) a much larger portion of media outlets. This is an EXTREME disservice to the American People. Diversity in media is the only way in which the interests of all people can be served. I hope that each committee member thinks long and hard about how his/her vote will effect each citizen's access to a multitude of diverse opinions and programming. Keep our country free by letting more small individuals/groups rather than just a few extremely large groups control the media in our country.

Susan McCrady
2803 E. Wallace Cir.
Ogden, UT 84403

From: David P Kunzmann
To: Mike Powell, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:03 PM
Subject: FCC issues of concern

Honorable FCC Commissioners,

Issue # 1) Portability of Mobile (Cell) Phone numbers - I'm for Portability and I can't think any Mobile phone customer that would not be. Even if it costs me more. These numbers get distributed and recorded on emergency notification forms at schools etc, School Nurses, On Call phone lists, Relatives - They get embedded into our life functions. I've read some of the Industries complaints on preventing portability and don't see their case. If you took a public survey I think it would speak for itself.

**

Issue # 2) Media Ownership restriction to 35% of market - I support keeping the Law. The silent majority sometimes needs to not be so silent. The Media is one area that needs completion to protect free speech and exchange of view points.

Thank You.

David P. Kunzmann

david.p.kunzmann@juno.com

From: Jodowig@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:04 PM
Subject: Media ownership

Please DO NOT allow greater consolidation of ownership of media outlets. We need greater diversity, more competition among greater numbers of smaller media companies so that we can, hopefully, be given more choice of what we see and hear. This is not a business decision; it is the future of our culture as a people.

James D . Wiggins
406 Shoreline Drive
Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

From: Adrienne Massel
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:08 PM
Subject: media deregulation

Mr. Powell,

As a lover of democracy, I am opposed to further deregulation of the media. I think the previous rules, although made years ago, are wise ones and need to be preserved. To hear a variety of opinions, it is only common sense, that there must be a wide variety of owners.

Please put the interest of the people ahead of corporate greed, rare as that is these days. The June 2nd vote should be postponed until you have made this important issue known to more Americans outside of Washington.

Sincerely,
Constance Matusiak

From: Christopher and Pamela Farrar
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:09 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Christopher and Pamela Farrar (farrarpc@msn.com) writes:

As a consumer of the public airways, we strongly urge you to postpone the scheduled vote on June 2nd regarding the ownership percentage in media markets. We feel that the public has not been fully informed of the ramifications of this type of ruling.

If the vote can not be rescheduled, then we urge you to vote against this ruling. We believe that no one entity should control such a large percentage (35%) of our airways. Our news must remain independent because our democracy depends upon it. The airways are the property of the Ameican people and it is a privledge, not a right, for media companies to use them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dr. and Ms. Farrar

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 67.26.106.158
Remote IP address: 67.26.106.158

From: Arabella Randolph
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:12 PM
Subject: Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the Internet

Arabella Randolph
P.O. Box 5521
Incline Village, NV 89450

May 2, 2003

Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael K. Powell
445 12th St SW
Rm 8-A204
Washington, DC 20554

Chair Powell:

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for ensuring that the media serve the public interest. I am concerned that the FCC is acting on behalf of big business rather than the people.

It is clear that the FCC has stepped up its efforts to de-regulate the media and telecommunications industries. You must act now to halt further media consolidation and to preserve the openness and diversity of the Internet.

As a supporter of women's rights, I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob us all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society. Ownership consolidation is squeezing out what little diversity remains in the marketplace.

The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review any further regulations. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

Sincerely,

Arabella Randolph

From: Michael Mayo
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:20 PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael Powell,

Numerous reports agree that the Federal Communications is planning to loosen longstanding rules governing control of the media that bring news and views to the American public. This will inevitably lead to monopoly, by a few large corporate giants, of TV stations, newspapers, and broadcast networks.

I urge you to halt immediately any implementation of these these FCC plans that threaten public access to diverse views and information.

Sincerely,

Michael John Mayo
143 Shotwell Park
Syracuse, New York
13206

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From: Chris Barry
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:21 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Chris Barry (skylarking@earthlink.net) writes:

Dear Commissioner Adelstein,

On June 2, I implore you to vote against relaxing or getting rid of rules that are helping to prohibit more media concentration in our country.

By voting against this, you will be doing your duty and advocating for the citizens that own the airwaves of the United States.

Already, too many of our newspapers and radio and tv stations are owned by too few. The result has been a lack of diversity, a homogenization of views and more and more indecent programming. Please help prevent a further slide into this abyss.

Another request: before the vote, please allow more opportunity for dialogue and consideration by these same citizens about the review. In a recent poll it was suggested that as much as 75% of our country has not even heard that these rules were up for review.

To change the landscape of media ownership behind our backs without proper dialogue and review would be reprehensible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chris Barry
12900 Sheffield Curve
Minnetonka, MN 55305

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: 205.215.216.202
Remote IP address: 205.215.216.202

From: Asa Foss
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:23 PM
Subject: potential deregulations

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am concerned over the lack of public hearings regarding the proposed deregulations scheduled for a June 2 vote. A vast majority of the population, roughly 75%, have no idea that such drastic deregulation is up for discussion. Those few who are informed are very concerned that if the PUBLIC airwaves are deregulated, monopolies will form, as was the case of radio last decade, and all our information will be concentrated in the hands of the few, which would be devastating to democracy. I dont need to tell you how important information is to maintain healthy, informed citizens, whom are the solid foundation of a successful democracy. So I urge you to hold public hearings, both to inform and listen to the public, since this issue will have such a profound impact on their lives. The future of our country is truly at stake.

Sincerely,
Asa Foss

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From: Jo and Denis Weis
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:26 PM
Subject: pending changes

I have been hearing some alarming things about the changes in the rules regarding ownership of the media. It is my understanding that one of the changes could make it possible for mergers that enhance the possibilities that just a few companies can own large numbers of TV and radio stations, newspapers, the internet etc. The media in this country is most important to our democracy. We need to hear many divergent views and be able to see many different kinds of programming. The editorial pages of our newspapers are a vital source of information, opinions and free discussions. I feel these things would be greatly impeded if the rules change to allow larger mergers.

From: Breathe5@aol.com
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:28 PM
Subject: Media deregulation

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to express my extreme dismay over the proposal to allow more media conglomeration.

Please do not take the local flavor out of our news, and especially the local ability to hold people together and help during an emergency.

More importantly, please allow freedom of the press to depend on truth and the search for truth rather than money and the bottom line of a financial statement.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Denise Troxell
Boonsboro, MD

From: Asa Foss
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:28 PM
Subject: potential deregulations

Dear Commissioner Adelstein:

I am concerned over the lack of public hearings regarding the proposed deregulations scheduled for a June 2 vote. A vast majority of the population, roughly 75%, have no idea that such drastic deregulation is up for discussion. Those few who are informed are very concerned that if the PUBLIC airwaves are deregulated, monopolies will form, as was the case of radio last decade, and all our information will be concentrated in the hands of the few, which would be devastating to democracy. I dont need to tell you how important information is to maintain healthy, informed citizens, whom are the solid foundation of a successful democracy. So I urge you to hold public hearings, both to inform and listen to the public, since this issue will have such a profound impact on their lives. The future of our country is truly at stake.

Sincerely,
Asa Foss

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From: Lenore Fernald
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:32 PM
Subject: Media Ownership

Dear Mr. Powell,

Decontrol of our public airwaves is not the answer. Your statements on this subject leads me and my family to believe that you represent the mega communications media, not the general public. Please remember, you have the fiduciary and moral responsibility to look after the interests of the nation, not the few large companies who would monopolize our communication networks.

Jeffrey C. Fernald
Sarasota, Florida

From: Bo & Clay Mrozek & Ewing
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:36 PM
Subject: Media rules change

Mr. Powell,

As a registered and active voter these past thirty years, I am appalled that someone who spends as much time during the day as I do listening to the news, still did not hear anything comprehensive about the vote you intend to participate in, in less than one month, until just recently. I have long since discarded the notion of a 'liberal press', what with the corporate consolidation of the various news agencies nationwide, and am now concerned--if not actually frightened--that the proof of such a consolidation of supposed checks and balances that is supposed to guarantee a free press, hasn't already been compromised, and is evidenced by my research that shows that only one national news program (other than NPR and PBS) has run a story on this life-altering potential change, and even that was a less than on minute bite.

These are not the media's airwaves, and to treat them as strictly a commodity is to endanger even further the existing and increasing monopolistic playing fields that our national business community has become, in general and specifically. To dismiss the public's input when it is your duty to represent not the corporate giants pressing this vote, but the public that is apparently being dismissed, proves the idea that modern America degrades farther and farther from Democracy, and becomes increasingly a government of the dollar, by the dollar, for the dollar. I plead with you to not continue this devil's slide into the hell that comes when Democracy is forsaken for any other master than the ones intended by Jefferson, Paine, and Franklin.

Thank You,

Clay E. Ewing
5 Cypress Fairway
Wimberley, TX 78676
512-847-5840

From: Sue99p@aol.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:39 PM
Subject: (no subject)

Dear Mr. Adelstein, I am very much concerned about the decision about to be made by the FCC concerning changing the rules of media ownership in this country. There has not been enough information disseminated to the public, or enough discussion on these historic changes. Democracy cannot exist without a free press, and the press will certainly be compromised if owned by a few companies whose main interest is profit. The airwaves belong to the American people, and should be treated as such. Do not change the rules!
Sincerely yours, Sue Petersen

From: Lenore Fernald
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:39 PM
Subject: Decontrol of Our Airwaves

Dear Mr. Adelstein,

Decontrol of our public airwaves is not the answer. Please remember, you have the fiduciary and moral responsibility to look after the interests of the nation, not the few large companies who would monopolize our communication networks.

Jeffrey C. Fernald
Sarasota, Florida

From: Bo & Clay Mrozek & Ewing
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:40 PM
Subject: Media Rules Change

Commissioner Adelstein,

As a registered and active voter these past thirty years, I am appalled that someone who spends as much time during the day as I do listening to the news, still did not hear anything comprehensive about the vote you intend to participate in, in less than one month, until just recently. I have long since discarded the notion of a 'liberal press', what with the corporate consolidation of the various news agencies nationwide, and am now concerned--if not actually frightened--that the proof of such a consolidation of supposed checks and balances that is supposed to guarantee a free press, hasn't already been compromised, and is evidenced by my research that shows that only one national news program (other than NPR and PBS) has run a story on this life-altering potential change, and even that was a less than on minute bite.

These are not the media's airwaves, and to treat them as strictly a commodity is to endanger even further the existing and increasing monopolistic playing fields that our national business community has become, in general and specifically. To dismiss the public's input when it is your duty to represent not the corporate giants pressing this vote, but the public that is apparently being dismissed, proves the idea that modern America degrades farther and farther from Democracy, and becomes increasingly a government of the dollar, by the dollar, for the dollar. I plead with you to not continue this devil's slide into the hell that comes when Democracy is forsaken for any other master than the ones intended by Jefferson, Paine, and Franklin.

Thank You,

Clay E. Ewing
5 Cypress Fairway
Wimberley, TX 78676
512-847-5840

From: Susan Maas
To: Michael Copps, Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 11:51 PM
Subject: PLEASE do not loosen media ownership rules!

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of my entire family, I beseech you -- for the sake of competition, diversity of ideas, and DEMOCRACY -- which, contrary to what Mr. Powell contends, are timeless, fundamental American values -- PLEASE do not loosen media ownership rules!

And Mr. Copps -- we want to thank you for your dogged efforts to inform the public about the enormously important decision before the FCC next month. You have our heartfelt gratitude.

Sincerely,

Susan Maas
freelance writer/editor; stay-at-home mom
4846 33rd Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55417
612/722-4739
scomaas@earthlink.net

02-277

From: Lyndunham@aol.com
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 3:30 PM
Subject: Telecommunications Act of 1996

Michael K. Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission

Dear Chairman Powell:

We are informed that you have proposed a rule change to allow further consolidation of ownership in the broadcast media as well as to remove restrictions on cross-ownership of print media.

Finally, you have brought peace to my household! My wife (a liberal Democrat) and I (a conservative Republican) agree enabling further consolidation in the media is a bad idea.

Your mail undoubtedly is calling attention to the dangers of further media consolidation. We agree with that and feel compelled to call your attention to the very reason we have a Federal Communications Commission in the first place. That is, to bring order to the allocation and operation of the PEOPLE'S resource. The Commission does not exist to enhance economic opportunity for media owners, but to assure the public access to the varied services to which it is entitled by "leasing" (through licensing) the publicly-owned airwaves to the various operators.

Consequently, we believe you should withdraw this proposal and concentrate, instead, on assuring a diversity of opinion and entertainment by vigorously enforcing license requirements, including those pertaining to public service time, local news and access, and, AT LAST, enforcement of engineer licensing to end jacking up the gain on commercials!

The latter, especially, would assure you an honored place in history.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,
Halstead F. Dunham
(10501 Bayside Road
Sun City, AZ 85351
623-974-6938)